III. Remarks

Rejected claims 1, 2, 12, and 13 have been cancelled, allowed claims 3-11, 15, and 16 have been maintained, and claim 14 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims, to place it in condition for allowance. Dependent claims 17-22 have been added which depend on allowable claims 3, 6, 8, 9, 10, and 15, respectively, and therefore are also allowable.

As a result of the above, all of the claims now presented are in condition for allowance and an early formal notice thereof is requested.

The examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if it would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Warren B. Kice
Registration No. 22,732

Dated: 10/8/04

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Mail Stop Amendment, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 8, 2004

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SANDRA KUBIN

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